

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
August 18, 2010

**Board Members Present:** Chairperson Ann McKown, Vice Chair Kenneth Titus; Secretary Gayle Harris, Public Health; Tommy Perry, Probation Designee; Marcia Owen, RCND; Deborah Schwartz, Member At Large; Steve Mihaich, Police Department Designee; Ellen Reckhow, Durham County Commissioner; Ricky Padgett, Office of the Sheriff Designee; Marcus Weeks, Member At Large; DeWarren Langley, Member At Large; Carolyn Titus, Deputy County Manager;

**Board Members Absent:** Ellen Holliman, Mental Health; John Fitzpatrick, Criminal Defense Attorney; Nina Bullock, Member At Large; Lao Rubert, Member At Large; Mark Sochaski, Victim of Crime; Stephanie Felder, Member at Large

**Staff:** Gudrun Parmer, Jo Iverson, Robin Heath, Jonie Coss

**Guests:** Reginald Glenn, OEIT - Offender Specialist; Diane Smith, TASC; Chantelle Fisher-Bourne, Durham's RBA Initiative; Rob Robinson, Mental Health

**Introductions:** Chairperson Ann McKown welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Minutes:** May 19, 2010 minutes were presented for approval. Minutes approved without corrections.

**CJRC Program Update:** Gudrun pointed out the program overview in the handout packet and began with the building renovations. She stated the third floor was completed but work was continuing on the first and second floors. Anticipation of completion was in four weeks; however, she was not certain the contractors would meet that goal. Gudrun expressed her appreciation to the County for funding the renovation project. Gudrun reported on the CJPP grant for FY 09/10. She stated the grant funds were spent 99.9% with the remaining unspent money in the contractual line. Gudrun reported the CJPP grant application received approval in June; still, the final amount had yet to be established given that the State budget was not yet finalized. She added CJRC received the award letter two weeks ago for \$183,064, which was same amount as last fiscal year.

Gudrun reported on the overall department budget by mentioning that CJRC took a net reduction in County funds of 3.68% for this FY.

Robin gave a summation of the upcoming changes in Employment Services. She stated there were several changes in the life skills format, which were anticipated to be very beneficial for the clients. She stated CBI (Cognitive Behavior Intervention) classes would be incorporated into the current STEP 1 of the employment class, meaning 21 lessons of the cognitive behavioral classes would now be a required portion of the STEP 1 class. With that, CJRC would be able to take other referrals from other agencies for both services. In addition, CJRC was looking at ways to apply computer skills in the employment class. Gudrun added the new format would be much more condensed, so they would get through CBI in four weeks instead of thirteen weeks. She believed the center could move more people through the employment program by incorporating CBI and increasing the completion rate.

Gudrun advised the board about the current recruitment for an Employment Specialist position that was budgeted and approved two years ago, but had remained unfilled because of the hiring freeze.

Gudrun stated the sixth cycle of Project Restore completed in May; she explained it was a very difficult cycle for everyone involved. She stated Durham Technical Community College who was one of the major partners in the project had informed CJRC they would not be able to support the live project portion in the future. She acknowledged that initially CJRC believed that they might be able to support it without them. However, after looking at all the different components, CJRC felt it would not be able to provide a quality program without DTCC. Gudrun stated a letter has been sent to the City of Durham requesting that CJRC be released from the second half of the contract. Gudrun added that City staff indicated they did not have a problem with releasing CJRC from the contract, since they could use the funding in another area.

Gudrun also announced that the Substance Abuse Treatment team was working on new format. Jo Iverson reported CJRC was receiving more and more clients with extensive Substance Abuse dependency issues that were not quite making it in Intensive Outpatient Services, so CJRC staff had researched what would be the next level of higher care for them. Jo added many of the clients the CJRC served did not have insurance so that limited the number of options. She added the SA staff met and discussed whether CJRC could implement a SACOT (Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment) program. She stated the difference between that program and an Intensive Outpatient Treatment program was that it required a person to come to the center 5 days a week for 4 hours a day. She added the services would increase in terms of more group counseling, incorporate relapse prevention, life skills, and crisis planning. She stated many clients were relapsing and CJRC needed to intensify their treatment. She added staff was currently looking at the logistics and the requirements needed to run SACOT, that also involved making sure CJRC was properly licensed. The board held a brief discussion about the crisis intervention component that CJRC did not currently have in place to run a SACOT program. Jo stated that was one of the issues CJRC needed to discuss with the Durham Center, along with a psychologist, and/or psychiatrist needed on staff also. Judge McKown believed this was a gap in services that many people fell through and she hoped that CJRC would be able to offer those services. Ellen Reckhow suggested the CJRC think about a wellness program for the clients that included exercises.

Jo presented Fiscal Year 2010 program numbers to the board; she presented an overview for the three programs SCP (Second Chance), DRC (Day Reporting Center) and RE (Reentry). There were 255 new admissions, 508 clients served and a completion rate of 34%. Jo completed her report by briefly summarizing each program and provided comparison data from the previous year. The board held a discussion on improving the completion rate and trying a different approach to increase the percentage and reach the current goal of 40%. Gudrun spoke about the limited controls in each program and mentioned that CJRC served a much tougher population than in earlier years. The board also discussed recidivism, employment, and the key indicators. Jo pointed out that the DRC completion rate had increased to 39%, which was the highest it had been in six years. Gudrun acknowledged that one key factor was the current DRC probation officer who was willing to work with CJRC. Jo pointed out the monthly report in the handout and summarized the monthly numbers on the DTC (Drug Treatment Court) and the STARR program.

**OETI – Offender Specialist:** Gudrun introduced Reginald Glenn, an employee of the Department of Correction. She stated his position was funded through a federal grant DOC had received. Reginald stated the program began in September 2009 and would be funded through March 2011. Mr. Glenn provided an outline of the program by explaining that the grant was helping those with criminal records in Durham County find employment program focusing on helping offenders find training programs or direct placements. He added the training money was divided among 10 participating counties and Durham was currently leading in receiving money for training. A conversation was held on the types of trainings offered and the growing concerns of employers checking both arrest records and criminal records. Gudrun asked if

Mr. Langley would look into seeing if NC Central offered a program on how to get a record expunged. He accepted. Mr. Glenn stated the turnout was excellent, however; clients had to apply themselves before he submitted all the paperwork. Mr. Glenn finished by stating only a few people did not complete the process to move on to training.

**Nominating Committee Report, Election of Officers:** Gayle Harris explained that the nominating committee met on July 26 and after much review, come up with a slate of officers. She advised the slate was purely a suggestion and she would take nominations from the floor and volunteers as well. She announced the recommendation of the Chairperson as Marcia Owen; Vice Chair, Gayle Harris; and Secretary, Nina Bullock. Judge McKown moved to accept the slate and Ellen Reckhow seconded to accept the slate. All were in favor for the recommended slate. No one opposed. All were congratulated and thanked for accepting the nominations.

**Addressing Mental Health and Substance Abuse in the Criminal Justice System in Durham, Subcommittee Update:** Gudrun introduced Chantelle Fisher-Bourne who provided an update from the subcommittee. Ms. Fisher-Bourne explained she was the Coordinator for Durham's RBA Initiative and briefly explained the responsibility of the subcommittee. She added the goal of the committee was to have recommendations by October on how the criminal justice system and the mental health system can better work together. She explained the goal for the next meeting was to map out the processes that already exist and identify where gaps are in the system. She stated, for that reason, her question to the board was did they have any more suggestions or items that they thought were missed. She provided a list of local departments who were currently mapping out their process, and asked the board if there were any others who needed to be part of the conversations. The following were mentioned: the District Attorney's Office, Public Health, and Probation. Ellen Reckhow mentioned a workshop she attended at the National Association of Counties Conference on Mental Health Courts in Washaw County, NV. She added it might be something for the group to look at. The court that was visited were doing a phenomenal job, Ellen also mention she believed Orange County, NC was another example to look at. Ms. Fisher-Bourne requested more information on the visit and Ellen agreed to provide that to her. The board held a discussion about the difference in the court system from one county to another, especially the differences between Durham and Orange County. Gudrun added the subcommittee was charged with looking at a range of different ideas and options and hopefully would bring a whole array of recommendations some that involved little to no cost and some at a higher cost. She added there were many very engaged and knowledgeable people on the sub-committee that had good energy. She invited the board to attend the next meeting. Ms. Fisher-Bourne would send out the next meeting date to Gudrun and Gudrun will forward that information to the board.

**News and Announcements:** Gudrun mentioned the Justice Reinvestment Initiative that was currently underway in NC. The Justice Center had begun working with the State of NC looking at the criminal justice system; she added there was some information in the handouts from the website for the board to read. She briefly explained the purpose of the initiative. She recommended if anyone wanted to become involved Lao Rubert would be a good contact.

Gudrun announced that the Durham Center and CJRC had received a productivity award from the NC Association of County Commissioners for the Durham Assessment Team. It was a joint initiative that was born out of the Durham Center and implemented under the leadership of Jo Iverson.

Gudrun also announced that Tommy Perry would be retiring at the end of September. Mr. Perry extended his appreciation for everyone's support while in Durham.

Gudrun thanked everyone for attending and announced the next CJPP Advisory Board Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2010, 1:00 PM.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.**